

Sinclair Broadcasting's dictate to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the problems inherent in the media monopolies made possible by the Bush Administration and the Republican Congress.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Their corporate decision to air Stolen Honor two weeks before the election is a clear attempt to use their privilege in the service of Bush propaganda. The airwaves must serve the concept of democracy through fair, unbiased programming. Campaign propaganda must be marked as such in the format of ads benefiting the candidate and party. Instead of this clear, democratic approach, media giants are being allowed to flood the airwaves with biased information, passed on as news, most of which the average American cannot discriminate from fact.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. As an educated American citizen with my eye on Washington, D. C. , I insist that media corporations be made to comply with the standards of a democratic, free press. Thank you. Dr. C. Fagan